



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 5723

William COOKSON et al. : Docket No. 2000-1720

Serial No. 09/647,327 : Group Art Unit 1634

Filed February 23, 2001 : Examiner J. Souaya

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement dated December 17, 2002, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-11. It is noted that this election is made by the Applicants while retaining their right to file a Divisional Application directed to the non-elected subject matter with the protection afforded by 35 USC § 121.

Claims 12-16, directed to non-elected subject matter, remain in the application. It is requested that they be permitted to remain in a dormant condition pending the filing of a divisional application.

The Examiner accordingly is requested to proceed with an examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

William COOKSON et al.

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